# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1639
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2016
NRDC Agreement for Test Kit for Drinking Water
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**Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the National Research Development Council (NRDC) has entered into an agreement for commercialisation of test kit for microbiological quality of drinking water;
(b) if so, the details thereof and the benefits likely to accrue therefrom;
(c) whether it is in compliance with WHO standards; and
(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND EARTH SCIENCES

(SHRI Y. S. CHOWDARY)

(a) Yes Madam, NRDC has entered into agreements with 20 companies for commercialization of the process for manufacture of "Test Kit for Microbiological Quality of Drinking Water".
(b) The process for manufacture of Test Kit for Microbiological Quality of Drinking Water was developed by Defence Research & Development Establishment (DRDE), Gwalior and the technology was assigned to the Corporation in 1987-88 for commercialization. The Corporation has licensed the process to 20 licensees (list of parties is enclosed as Annexure I).
It is basically a kit used to test suitability of water for drinking. The kit is used for detection of H2S (Hydrogen Sulfide) producing organisms in drinking water, which are present along with Coliforms. These pollutants in the water supply are responsible for causing waterborne diseases like typhoid, cholera, diarrhoea and jaundice. The conventional method of testing the microbiological quality of water requires the services of a qualified microbiologist, laboratory facilities and takes 72 hours to know the result. This test kit does not need any laboratory facility and thus, it is an inexpensive, reliable and convenient method of testing potability of drinking water.
(c) WHO has approved this process for testing the microbiological quality of drinking water.
(d) The process for testing the microbiological quality of drinking water conforms to the WHO document on "Evaluating household water treatment options: health-based targets and microbiological performance specifications".

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Annexure I
List of NRDC Licensees for Test Kit of Microbiological Quality of Drinking Water developed by DRDE, Gwalior

| No. | LICENSEE | CITY/STATE | Year of Aggreement |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | A.P.Industrial Components Ltd | Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh | 1988 |
| 2 | Ion Exchange (India) Ltd | Patancheru, Andhra Pradesh | 1988 |
| 3 | Watek (India) | Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh | 1992 |
| 4 | Premier Health Care products | Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh | 1996 |
| 5 | Techno AD System Inc., | Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh | 1998 |
| 6 | HiMedia Laboratories Ltd | Mumbai, Maharashtra | 1999 |
| 7 | Water Health Laboratories | Roorkee, Uttar Pradesh | 1999 |
| 8 | LTEK Systems | Nagpur, Maharashtra | 2000 |
| 9 | Shrinath Chemicals | Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh | 2000 |
| 10 | Water Tech Engineers, | Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh | 2002 |
| 11 | H.S. Industries | Ranga Reddy, Andhra Pradesh | 2004 |
| 12 | A.P. Water Testing Equipment Co. | Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh | 2005 |
| 13 | Abhijit Enterprises | Pune, Maharashtra | 2006 |
| 14 | Technology and Action for Rural Advancement, | New Delhi, Delhi | 2007 |
| 15 | Plasti Surge Industries Ltd | Amravati, Maharashtra | 2007 |
| 16 | Shrinathji Kayakalp Remedies Pvt. Ltd. | Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh | 2007 |
| 17 | S.B. Equipments, | New Delhi, Delhi | 2008 |
| 18 | Galaxy Analytical & Research Services, | Indore, Madhya Pradesh | 2008 |
| 19 | Vishal Pharmacuticals Laboratories | Indore, Madhya Pradesh | 2012 |
| 20 | Ramashree Chemicals Pvt. Ltd. | Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh | 2016 |